

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A device to eliminate trimmings or scraps from series of products comprising:

- a path for the products, extending from a product and trimmings entry position and a product delivery position, the trimmings being removed between said entry position and said delivery position, and said path being constructed and arranged to receive said trimmings and said products aligned in a row extending substantially parallel to a direction of advancement from said entry position to said delivery position;

- extending along said path, a movable flexible member to retain and move the products and the trimmings and an opposite longitudinal fixed element to retain said trimmings extending along said path parallel to a first branch of said flexible member, said fixed longitudinal element being spaced from said first branch of said flexible member so as to allow the products to advance in contact with said flexible member and with said fixed longitudinal element;

- at least one pusher movable along a feed trajectory, to feed the series of products with the trimmings to said path;

wherein the pusher is constructed and arranged to feed simultaneously a series of feeds~~the~~ products and the trimmings, including a lead trim and a trailing trim, while in contact with each other and aligned in said row parallel to the direction of advancement between said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element; wherein said feed trajectory of the pusher intersects the path of the products between said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element, overlapping in a final stretch of the path of the products in contact with said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element.

2. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said products are rolls of wound web material and said trimmings are head and tail trimmings produced by cutting rolls or logs.

3. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said fixed longitudinal element is at a lower height than said flexible member.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said first branch of the flexible member is approximately vertically overlapping said fixed longitudinal element.

6. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the fixed longitudinal element and the first branch of the flexible member are operatively spaced relative to one another so as to receive rolls of wound web material and trimmings therefrom.

7. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flexible member extends upstream of said fixed longitudinal element, in relation to a direction of feed of the products.

8. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flexible member has a feed speed, along said path, greater than a feed speed imparted on the products by said at least one pusher.

9. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 1, wherein spacing between the flexible member and the fixed longitudinal element is adjustable.

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Canceled).

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said fixed longitudinal element comprises a synthetic material with a low friction coefficient.

18. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 17, wherein said synthetic material is polytetrafluoroethylene (Teflon).

19. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said fixed longitudinal element has a laminar extension, with a rounded surface in contact with the products.

20. (Previously Presented) Device as claimed in claim 19, wherein said fixed longitudinal element has a reduced height in proximity to the product and trimmings entry position.

21. (Canceled).

22. (Currently Amended) Device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said fixed longitudinal element and said flexible member are positioned on opposite sides of a vertical median plane of symmetry of the products fed along said path; ~~space distance~~ distance between said fixed longitudinal element and said flexible member in a plan projection being adjustable to handle products of variable diameters when is less than a transverse plan dimension of said products to be received and fed along said path; and the dimension and form of said

pusher are such that during action of said pusher to feed the products to said path between the flexible member and the fixed longitudinal element the pusher does not interfere with said fixed longitudinal element and said flexible member.

23. (Canceled).

24. (Currently Amended) A device to eliminate trimmings or scraps from series of products comprising:

- a path for the products, extending from a product and trimmings entry position and a product delivery position, the trimmings being removed between said entry position and said delivery position, and said path being constructed and arranged to receive said trimmings and said products aligned in a row extending substantially parallel to a direction of advancement from said entry position to said delivery position;

- extending along said path, a movable flexible member to retain and move the products and the trimmings and an opposite longitudinal fixed element to retain said trimmings extending along said path parallel to a first branch of said flexible member, said fixed longitudinal element being positioned and spaced from said first branch of said flexible member so that the flexible member contacts trimmings and products on a top surface thereof and the

fixed longitudinal element contacts these trimmings and products on another surface thereof opposite the top surface to allow the products to advance in contact with said flexible member and with said fixed longitudinal element;

- at least one pusher movable along a feed trajectory, to feed the series of products with the trimmings to said path;

wherein the pusher is constructed and arranged to feed simultaneously a series of feeds the products and the trimmings, including a lead trim and a trailing trim, while in contact with each other and aligned in said row parallel to the direction of advancement between said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element; wherein said feed trajectory of the pusher intersects the path of the products between said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element, overlapping in a final stretch of the path of the products in contact with said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element; and wherein said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element are arranged relative to one another to cause the trimmings to overturn due to an overturning torque applied thereon by said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element.

25. (New) A device to eliminate trimmings or scraps from series of products comprising:

- a path for the products, extending from a product and trimmings entry position and a product delivery position, the trimmings being removed between said entry position and said delivery position, and said path being constructed and arranged to receive said trimmings and said products aligned in a row extending substantially parallel to a direction of advancement from said entry position to said delivery position;

- extending along said path, a movable flexible member to retain and move the products and the trimmings and an opposite longitudinal fixed element to retain said trimmings extending along said path parallel to a first branch of said flexible member, said fixed longitudinal element being spaced from said first branch of said flexible member so as to allow the products to advance in contact with said flexible member and with said fixed longitudinal element;

- at least one pusher movable along a feed trajectory, to feed the series of products with the trimmings to said path;

- a cutter arranged upstream, in relation to the direction of advancement, of said fixed longitudinal element and said movable flexible member, said cutter being constructed and arranged to provide the series of products

including the trimmings which comprise a lead trim and a trailing trim,

wherein the pusher is constructed and arranged to advance the series of products and trimmings, including a lead trim and a trailing trim, simultaneously and while aligned in said row parallel to the direction of advancement towards and between said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element; wherein said feed trajectory of the pusher intersects the path of the products between said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element, overlapping in a final stretch of the path of the products in contact with said flexible member and said fixed longitudinal element.